Author's response to reviews

Title: Catheter-related bacteremia due to Kocuria rosea in a patient undergoing peripheral blood stem cell transplantation

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Version: 2 Date: 8 October 2004

Author's response to reviews: see over
Responses to the reviewer’s comments

**Reviewer:** Paolo De Paoli

Responses to major compulsory revisions

1. We think that this case meets the criteria for a catheter related bacteremia;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>In this case</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bacteremia/fungemia in a patient with an intravascular catheter with at least 1 positive blood culture obtained from a peripheral vein</td>
<td>Four blood culture obtained from a peripheral vein were positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clinical manifestations of infections (ie, fever, chills, and/or hypotension), and no apparent source for the BSI except the catheter.</td>
<td>high fever (temperature 38.5 °C) tachycardia (heart rate 108 beats/min) increased respiratory rate (26 breaths/min) chills and no apparent source for the BSI except the catheter. The patient did not respond satisfactorily to vancomycin therapy for five consecutive days. After the catheter was removed, blood cultures were negative and the patient became afebrile.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One of the following should be present:

| A positive semi quantitative (>15CFU/catheter segment) or quantitative (>10^3 CFU/catheter segment catheter) culture whereby the same organism (species and antibiogram) is isolated from the catheter segment and peripheral blood; simultaneous quantitative blood cultures with a >5:1 ratio CVC versus peripheral; differential period of CVC culture versus peripheral blood culture positivity of >2 hours. | Semiquantitative culture was positive and *Kocuria rosea* (species and antibiogram) is isolated from the catheter segment and in blood drawn from a peripheral vein (four cultures) and from the catheter (two cultures). We did not perform quantitative blood cultures or a differential time to positivity |


2. *Kocuria rosea* was identified on the basis of Bergey’s Manual of Systematic Bacteriology. This identification was confirmed with the commercially available tests (ID32 Staph ATB system, and mini-API, Biomerieux). We did not perform additional molecular identification assays. Because we don’t have these facilities in our hospital.
Responses to minor essential revisions

There is no fig in this paper.

Typing errors have been corrected.
Responses to the reviewer’s comments

Reviewer: EDWARD ARSURA

1. Manuscript was shortened.
2. Abstract section has been corrected.
3. Page 2 Background section, the first sentence has been changed in conformity with the reviewer’s suggestion.
4. Background line 4, ‘however’ was deleted.
5. Background line 7 was changed
6. Case presentation section has been corrected according to the reviewer’s suggestion.
7. Discussion page 6, paragraph 3, line 5, was corrected.
8. Discussion page 6, paragraph 4, was rewritten according to the reviewer’s suggestion.
9. Typing errors have been corrected.
10. Antibiotherapy was deleted.